

REMARKS

Claims 1-37 are pending in this application. No claims have been amended in response to the instant office action.

SPECIFICATION AMENDMENT

By the amendment to the specification, Applicant has corrected an inadvertent typographical error listing application 10/668,611 instead of 10/688,611 to which priority is claimed. In addition, a Supplemental Application Data Sheet pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.76(c) is filed herewith to correct an inadvertent typographical error in the original declaration listing application 10/668,611 instead of 10/688,611 to which priority is claimed.

ALLOWABLE SUBJECT MATTER

The Examiner objects to claims 9 and 33 as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, and indicates that claims 9 and 33 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base and any intervening claims. Applicant gratefully acknowledges the Examiner's indication of allowable subject matter in claims 9 and 33.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 102

Reconsideration is respectfully requested of the rejection of claims 1-8, 10-32 and 34-37 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent Application Pub. No. 2007/0108788 ("Shalam").

Applicant submits that Shalam is not prior art to the instant application. The instant application was filed on March 25, 2004, which is prior to the filing date of Shalam, which is January 3, 2007, and prior to the filing dates of U.S. Patent

Application Serial No. 10/969,484 (October 20, 2004) and U.S. Provisional Application No. 60/756,260 (Jan. 4, 2006) from which Shalam claims priority. Shalam also claims priority to U.S. Patent Application Serial Nos. 10/699,334 and 10/438,724 ('334 and '724 applications), which were filed prior to the instant application. However, the instant application also claims priority to the '334 and '724 applications.

Accordingly, for the foregoing reasons, Shalam is not prior art to the instant application.

Therefore, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner withdraw the rejection of claims 1-8, 10-32 and 34-37 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e).

An early and favorable reconsideration is earnestly solicited. If the Examiner has any further questions or comments, the Examiner may telephone Applicant's Attorney to reach a prompt disposition of this application.

Respectfully submitted,



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